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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/996,657	11/29/2001	Charles Raymond Degenhardt	8375D	6277

27752 7590 02/06/2004

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EXAMINER

DESAI, RITA J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1625

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/996,657	DEGENHARDT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rita J. Desai	1625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Status of the claims:-

Claims 17-25.

Elected claims were drawn to compounds and compositions 17-24.

Applicants previously added claim 25 is not in the elected group.

However if the compound claims are found to be allowable then the method of treating drawn to one method limited to the scope of the compounds and if free from 112 issues will be rejoined.

Response to Arguments

New grounds of rejection

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is specifically drawn to the non-elected subject matter. A new abstract drawn to the elected group is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 17-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The claims recite an amide, ester, imide susceptible to being cleaved...

The specifications do not indicate where these are formed or which groups they are!.

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There could be lined anywhere on the molecule! and there is no description as to how they are formed.

If they are on the OH group then it is no longer an OH group!

Also the language "susceptible to being cleaved in vivo" requires undue experimentation. and testing!

Applicants have a reach through claim ! The claim reads on compounds not yet made or tested!.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 17-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 3524955

The applicants compounds are drawn to compounds as given by the first 2 example on page 11 of the specifications.

Scope and Content of Prior Art MPEP 2141.01

The prior art DE 3524955 teaches the compound as given in the action mailed 2/11/2003.

Difference Between the Prior Art and the Claims MPEP 2141.02

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The prior art compounds have the phenyl rings attached directly to the CH whereas the applicants have an alkyl linker of at least 2.

Prima Facie Obviousness Rational and Motivation MPEP 2142-2143

The applicants claim R6 to be any aromatic or carbocyclic group substituted or unsubstituted. The only difference is in 2 CH₂ linker.

Homologs are not considered to be patentable unless there is a sided by side comparison and a showing of unexpected properties.

Applicants have not shown this.

Applicants can overcome this by limiting x to be 1, and D1 to be C=O and D2 be NH.

Conclusion

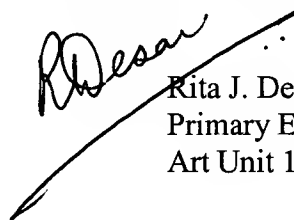
The claims are still rejected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rita J. Desai whose telephone number is 571-272-0684. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on 571-272-0699.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Rita J. Desai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1625

R.D.
February 2, 2004